

In the Specification:

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 13 on page 3 with the following amended paragraph (white space between the letters "c" and "a" is removed):

The disclosed system can be used to facilitate developer decisions regarding storage of operational characteristics, such as POV data, by a component under development, using consistent, deterministic project guidelines. During operation of the disclosed system, the POV needs of the component under development are "profiled" by obtaining answers to a series of questions relevant to the high level system design. For example, the flowchart of questions for a given POV data value may be presented to a developer within a graphical user interface (GUI) presented by the disclosed system. The collected answers to the questions lead the developer to a "node" that can be represented as an element in a category array having dimensions equal in number to the number of questions. For example, a decision tree with two questions, each having two possible answers, translates into a two-dimensional category array with four array elements; a decision tree with three questions, each having two possible answers, translates into a three-dimensional category array with eight array elements, etc. Each element of the category array represents a category of POV data, and contains one or more associated design guidelines. During operation of the disclosed system, a developer obtains the design guidelines appropriate for a given piece of POV data when the answers entered by the developer with regard to that

POV data value are used to identify one of the elements in the category array. For example, a design guideline for one of the array elements in the category array may indicate that POV data with that element's characteristics should be stored in a text file on the local hard drive, while another array element may indicate the POV data should be stored using a reusable user preference storage component developed by the system team.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 2 illustrates a flow of questions provided by an embodiment of the disclosed system to determine a profile for an POV data value consisting of a configuration value. The questions described by the Fig. 2 flow may be provided through any appropriate graphical user interface (GUI) on a user computer system. Similarly, the answers to the questions described by the Fig. 2 flow may be obtained through any appropriate graphical user interface. Those skilled in the art will recognize that the order of the questions in Fig. 2 is for purposes of explanation only, and that any question order may be used. Similarly, the specific questions in Fig. 2 are also given only for purposes of explanation, and the specific questions provided in different embodiments may vary, depending on the overall requirements and system design of the system under development.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 11 of page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

At step 70 of the embodiment shown in Fig. 2, the disclosed system displays a question to the user as to whether the configuration value is to be maintained as the same value for all users of the system under development, or as a different value for each user. The disclosed system captures the answer provided by the user to the question of step 70, and at step 72 displays a question to the user as to whether the configuration value is to be maintained as the same value for all locations over which the system under development is deployed, or is to be maintained separately in each location. After capturing the answer to the question of step 72, the disclosed system displays a question at step 73 to determine who is to be allowed to read the configuration value. The answer to the question of step 73 is then captured, and the disclosed system displays a question at step 74 to determine who is to be permitted to edit ~~read~~ the configuration value, and captures the answer to that question. The disclosed system then operates to display a question to determine when ~~whether~~ the configuration value is to be editable at step 75, and captures the answer to that question. Thus, as shown for purposes of explanation in Fig. 2, the disclosed system may be embodied to determine whether a given POV data value is the same for all users or different for each user, whether the POV data value is the same in all locations or different for different locations, which users are permitted to read and/or edit the POV data value, and whether the POV data value should be modifiable at development time, installation time, and/or runtime. Questions provided by the disclosed system, such as those shown for purposes of explanation in Fig. 2, are system-specific, and determined by technical leadership.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 20 of page 10 with the following amended paragraph:

The category array 80 includes a first entry 82 associated with a category of configuration values that are the same for all users, and the same for all locations in the system under development. A second entry 84 is associated with a category of configuration values that are different for each user, but are the same for all locations~~each location~~. The entry 86 is associated with a category of configuration values that are the same for each user, but are different for each location, and the entry 88 is associated with a category of configuration values that are the different for each user and different for each location. Each of the entries in the category array 80 of Fig. 3 are associated with one or more design guidelines to be provided to a user with regard to a POV data value that maps to that entry. For example, in the case where the POV data value is a configuration value, each of the entries in the category array 80 may be associated with a separate data store for storing configuration values, or with meta-data to identify different categories of configuration values stored within a shared data store. The four entry category array 80 of Fig. 3 is shown for purposes of illustration only, and an embodiment of the disclosed system may have a category array having any appropriate number of entries to reflect the specific set of profiling questions for that embodiment. In any event, after the user has answered the set of profiling questions, the POV data value in question is associated by the disclosed system with one and only one of the entries in the category array.